

# **BURN PERMIT INFORMATION**

Burn permits must be obtained by the Belen Fire Department, located at 116 S. 6th Street (SE corner of 6th Street & Becker Avenue, under the Water Tower).

Burn permits are valid for 30 days. Once the permit expires, a new permit must be completed.

There is NO COST for burn permits.

All burning must take place on VALID BURN DAYS.

Burning shall take place one-hour after sunrise and be extinguished and cold one-hour before sunset.

NO BURNING shall take place under windy conditions such as “Red Flag Warning” or “Fire Weather Watch”

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE and liable for any damage incurred, or fire suppression costs associated with damage resulting from or caused by your open fire.

Don't delay in calling for help. If, for some reason, the fire should get out of control, call 9-1-1 immediately to notify the fire department. Always use utmost caution when open burning to prevent injury to yourself, family members and pets.

## **IMPORTANT NON-EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

**VALENCIA COUNTY DISPATCH**  
**(505) 865-2039**

**BELEN FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**(505) 966-2714**

# **A GUIDE TO OPEN BURNING IN THE CITY OF BELEN**



Ordinance 2014-01 as amended

Section 8.20 of the Belen Municipal Code

## **PROVIDED BY:**

**CITY OF BELEN FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**FIRE PREVENTION & CODE ENFORCEMENT BUREAU**  
**100 S. MAIN STREET**  
**BELEN, NM 87002**  
**(505) 966-2714**

**MANNY J. GARCIA, FIRE CHIEF**

**“Open Burning”** is the burning of unwanted materials such as paper, tree branches, brush, leaves, grass clippings, dry weeds, tree stumps, and other vegetative debris where smoke and other emissions are released directly into the air.

**Materials to be burned shall** be dry, readily combustible and piled, collected or in a pit or small pile in such quantities to be completely consumed and controlled within permitted burn times.

**Ignition of fire** may be through the use of matches, flares or hand-held torches fueled by LP gas or butane.

**Burning shall NOT be conducted** during wind conditions which either cause the spreading of smoke into populated areas or which reduce visibility on traveled roads or creates a public nuisance or may cause uncontrollable spreading of fire.

**NO OPEN BURNING shall be undertaken** during periods when either the Belen Fire Chief or National Weather Service has issued a burn ban or a “Red Flag Warning” or “Fire Weather Watch” has been issued.

**Open burning shall be constantly attended** and supervised by a competent person of at least 18 years of age until the fire is completely extinguished and cold. There shall be readily available for use such fire extinguishing equipment such as a water hose, water bucket or portable fire extinguisher.

**Open Burning** should be done at least fifty (50) feet away from any structure.

**No materials may be burned** upon any street, curb, alley, gutter, sidewalk or public way.

Anyone wishing to conduct a bonfire, campfire or recreational fire is required to notify the fire chief to obtain a fire permit with special considerations. Contact the fire chief at (505) 966-2710 with any questions.

## **MATERIALS THAT MAY NOT BE BURNED**

- **Rubbish, garbage or trash**
- **Construction or demolition debris including furniture**
- **Waste oil or used oil filters**
- **Any items containing asphalt, tar or tar paper**
- **Treated or painted wood or which has been treated with preservatives**
- **Any plastic material like PVC, ABS, polystyrene or urethane foam, synthetic fabrics, plastic films and plastic containers**
- **Rubber or rubber-like products**
- **Insulated wire**
- **Railroad ties**
- **Batteries**
- **Motor vehicle bodies or interiors**
- **Pathogenic waste**
- **Asbestos or items containing asbestos**

**BURN  
BARRELS  
ARE**

**PROHIBITED**



## **Safe open burning tips...**

- Create a fire break at least ten feet wide at property lines and around all structures and trees.
- Avoid using gasoline, kerosene or a flammable liquid to start a fire because the risk of personal injury is high. Instead, use paper or kindling and progressively add to the pile as needed.
- Fires must never be left unattended and be completely extinguished and cold before leaving the area.
- Emission reduction techniques include minimizing material to be burned. All material should be completely dry before burning, and minimize soil (dirt) content in piles.
- Do not burn household trash
- Have fire control tools on hand. MUST have a water source of some kind (pressurized water extinguisher, a pump can or garden hose), shovels, rakes or ABC extinguisher.
- Be prepared to extinguish fire when conditions necessitate. Sudden wind change is how most open burning gets out of control.
- Burn in small piles with natural wood products no greater than one-inch in diameter or four feet in length. This allows them to burn more quickly.
- Apply water to surrounding vegetation to reduce fire spread.
- Be a good neighbor!!